

CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH CROWLEY

Congressman Crowley Named to Powerful Committee on Financial Services

Committed to Expanding Home Ownership Opportunities for Working New Yorkers

CONGRESSMAN CROWLEY WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED TO THE powerful Committee on Financial Services, which has jurisdiction over securities, financial institutions, insurance and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Congressman Crowley secured an assignment on the important Oversight Subcommittee which has investigative authority over HUD. As the only New York Democrat on this Subcommittee, Congressman Crowley will fight for the residents of New York City Public Housing to ensure our fair share of Federal funding to make housing safer and more comfortable for New York's working families. In addition, as a Member of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions, Congressman Crowley is committed to working with local lending institutions to expand credit opportunities for minorities and low-income New Yorkers.



Congressman Joseph Crowley meets with United States Secretary of State and Bronx Native Colin Powell when Secretary Powell testified before the House Committee on International Relations. As a Member of this influential Committee, Congressman Crowley has worked hard to increase funding for United Nations Peacekeeping Activities in Sierra Leone, US funding for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention in Sub Saharan Africa and initiatives to lower the cost of AIDS fighting drugs in the developing world.

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NEW YORK'S 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

SPRING 2001

Congressman Crowley Commemorates Black History Month with Congressman Harold Ford, Jr.



Congressman Joseph Crowley and Congressman Harold Ford, Jr. (TN) – far right, congratulate Shannon Miller and Jason Porter, who presented essays on what Black History Month means to them at the Seventh Congressional District Black History Month Commemoration.



ON FEBRUARY 12TH, 2001, Congressman Joseph Crowley participated in the second annual Black History Month Event for the Seventh Congressional District sponsored by Citibank. Joining Congressman Crowley as keynote speaker at the event was a rising star of the Democratic Congress Harold Ford, Jr. of Tennessee.

Congressman Crowley joined hundreds of community leaders and families from Queens and the Bronx in commemorating the great contributions African Americans have made to New York City and the entire country. He discussed the importance of fairness and equality for all Americans in the aftermath of the 2000 Presidential election. Congressman Crowley declared that he would work to secure funding to make sure every American is able to exercise their right to vote without economic or racial discrimination.

Congressman Harold Ford delivered the keynote address focusing on economic empowerment and education. Congressman Ford, the youngest Member of the Congressional Black Caucus at the age of 31, is considered by many to be the new face of African American leadership in Congress. *The New York Times Sunday Magazine* has praised Congressman Ford for his centrist and pragmatic approach to politics. In his remarks, Congressman Ford talked about the importance of investing in America's youth by building more schools, improving the quality of public education and bringing additional Federal resources to help cities rebuild and modernize overcrowded and out-dated schools.

Also attending the event were New York City Councilwoman Helen Marshall, New York City Board of Education Representative for Queens Terri Thomson and local community, church and civic leaders.

Congressman Crowley Hosts Queens Ministers and Community Leaders Forum on Faith Based Initiative

Congressmen Ford and Crowley discuss using federal funding for President Bush's Faith Based Initiatives project with ministers and community leaders from Queens and the Bronx.



Congressman Crowley presents a \$960,000 federal grant he secured for Community School District 30 for their 21st Century Community Learning Center after school programs.



CONGRESSMAN CROWLEY WAS JOINED BY SPECIAL GUEST Congressman Harold Ford for a working breakfast with Queens Ministers and other community leaders to discuss President Bush's proposed Federal funding for Faith Based Initiatives. While the true details of the plan are still not finalized, local clergy and leaders expressed their ideas of what a successful Federal initiative should include. A major topic of conversation was the President's plan to take some education money to give to parents in the form of

vouchers for private or parochial school tuition. Ministers and community leaders expressed their concern that critical Federal funding for public after school programs, early Head Start and school modernization and reconstruction would be redirected to private institutions.

Congressman Crowley Fights to Protect Voters Rights

DETERMINED THAT MISTAKES MADE IN FLORIDA NOT BE allowed to happen again, Congressman Crowley has joined his colleagues in the Democratic leadership as a sponsor of **The Voting Improvement Act (H.R. 775)** to ensure that all Americans have access to the most up to date voting technology. This bill will provide up to \$6,000 a precinct for voter technology upgrades to any state or county that still uses punch-card voting machines. Congressman Crowley supports this bill to make hanging chads, pregnant chads, and dimpled chads a thing of the past.

Congressman Crowley also joined Congressman John Conyers (MI) and the Congressional Black Caucus as a co-sponsor of the **Equal Protection of Voting Rights Act**. This legislation is a true improvement to everyone's civil rights. First, consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court in *Bush v. Gore*, the bill would require states to adopt uniform and

non-discriminatory state-wide standards for election machinery. Second, the bill provides for an "early bird" program for states that want to start election reform early enough for the 2002 elections. In order to qualify for federal funding under this grant program, a state must adopt a state-wide program for uniform and non-discriminatory election machinery and procedures, adopt additional guarantees against wrongful purges and ensure access for voters with disabilities, language minorities, and overseas military voters. And finally, this legislation establishes a Commission to study not just voting machinery, but also the best practices for providing access to voters with disabilities, overseas military voters, and others with special needs, as well as investigating flawed felony voter purges. Congressman Crowley looks forward to working for passage of the **Equal Protection of Voting Rights Act into law this year.**

Congressman Crowley Secures \$500,000 in Federal Funding to Help Queens At-Risk Women

ON FEBRUARY 13, 2001, CONGRESSMAN Joseph Crowley visited ELMCOR Youth and Adult Activities, Inc. to present a \$500,000 check from the Federal Government's Department of Health and Human Services. Congressman Crowley secured this funding to fill a local need in North-West Queens for the establishment of a mother with child live in facility. This innovative facility will provide a safe and secure place for young women with children who are at-risk of becoming addicted to drugs, trying to recover from a previous addiction or suffer from HIV/AIDS.

This residential program funded with Federal money will help young women learn important mothering and life skills to help them get back on their feet so they can have a better life for themselves and their children.

ELMCOR works throughout the Elmhurst and Corona communities to improve economic opportunities, health-care and social services.



Congressmen Ford and Crowley recently toured the ELMCOR Youth and Adult, Inc. programs in Elmhurst where Congressman Crowley presented a \$500,000 check for federal funding he secured to Dr. Lawrence Miller and Ann Henderson for the facility's housing program for at risk women and their children.